

**** R E M A R K S ****

Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the applicants' invention. Thus, claims 1 and 3 remain for consideration in this application, claims 4-18 having been withdrawn from consideration. A marked-up version showing the present amendments to the claims is attached hereto as "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

The specification is objected to as not providing an antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter.

Claims 1-3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter not in the specification.

Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended in order to correspond with the specification. Specifically, in claim 1, the "twisted angle" is now recited as being "greater than 180° and less than or equal to 260°". Thus, it is submitted that claim 1 is now fully supported by the specification.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wada (U.S. Patent No. 5,119,216, in view of Furuta (U.S. Patent No. 5,699,133).

Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. Thus, the above rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

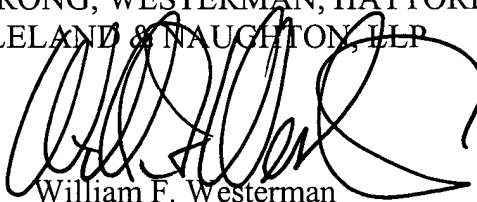
Accordingly, in view of the amendments to the claims, Applicants submit that the Examiner's objections and rejections have been overcome. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that the application be passed onto issue.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
McLELAND & NAUGHTON, LLP



William F. Westerman
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 29,988

Atty. Docket No. **971480**
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: (202) 659-2930
Fax: (202) 887-0357
WFW/klh
Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 1 **(Twice Amended)** A liquid crystal shutter comprising:

a liquid crystal device including a nematic liquid crystal sealed in between a first transparent substrate and a second transparent substrate on whose inner surfaces are formed respective transparent electrodes, said liquid crystal device having a twisted angle of $[190^\circ]$ greater than 180° and less than or equal to 260° ; and

a pair of polarizing plates between which are sandwiched said first transparent substrate and said second transparent substrate, said polarizing plates having respective absorption axes which are orthogonal to each other, said absorption axes of said polarizing plates being angled within a range of $\pm 40^\circ$ to $\pm 50^\circ$ relative to a direction in which intermediate liquid crystal molecules are orientated, said direction indicating a direction of orientation of said liquid crystal in an intermediate portion in a direction of thickness of said liquid crystal device;

wherein said liquid crystal device is driven by applying DC or AC voltage of 10 to 20V, and birefringence of said liquid crystal device is nullified when said voltage is applied to said liquid crystal device.